

Study kit about citizenship and personal rights

Denmark - National Board of Social Services (Socialstyrelsen)

SUMMARY OF PROJECT

The study kit is an educational program for people with cognitive disabilities to acquire knowledge about citizenship and personal rights. The objective of the program is to develop and test methods, tools, and information materials that provide people within the target group with knowledge of their personal rights, and to give the target group concrete tools for practicing these rights.

“The study kit contributes to giving people with cognitive disabilities the opportunity to acquire knowledge of citizenship and personal rights, as well as concrete tools for exercising citizenship by participating in society and democracy.”

—Socialstyrelsen

FACTS & FIGURES

- The study kit has been developed in collaboration with educational institutions and has been tested by approx. 150 young people and adults.
- The kit has been presented to 320 leaders and professionals within the field, and information has been sent to all national municipalities and relevant professionals throughout the country.

PROBLEMS TARGETED

The project focuses on improving the chances of people with cognitive disabilities to live an independent life and contribute to a democratic society on equal terms with others. This is achieved by developing and testing methods, tools, and information materials that provide people within the target group with knowledge of their personal rights and by giving them concrete tools for practicing these rights.

SOLUTION & METHODOLOGY

The program takes into account the specific cognitive educational needs of the individual and provides educators with the tools for teaching the target group. Exercises are based on activities, pictures, role-playing, and visits, making the themes recognizable and part of the participants' daily life. The aim is to provide participants with increased knowledge as well as an opportunity to practice the use of this knowledge. The colors red, yellow, and green are used to mark and illustrate different levels of decision-making. Educators work with the participants also beyond the four-week program.

OUTLOOK & TRANSFERABILITY

Based on positive experiences with the study kit, a project has been initiated in 2014 to extend access to the kit to a wider target group of adults with more severe cognitive disabilities. This project will test and spread out an adjusted kit 10 municipalities. Kit materials are compiled in various formats that make it possible for the individual educator to further specify the materials for his or her participants.

Photo: Yes

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